The Episcopal Diocese of Utah

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS a Bishop of the Church is called to "guard the faith, unity and discipline of the Church", and to "share in the government of the whole Church", being responsible to serve the national church as well as a particular diocese (BCP 517, 518); and

WHEREAS it is a matter of canon law that men and women be considered equally when making application for Holy Orders; and

WHEREAS the Diocese of Utah has repeatedly affirmed its support for the ordination of women (Convention Journal 1973, 1976, 1977); and

WHEREAS the Standing Committee of this diocese has gone on record as holding a matter of principle to be sufficient cause for withholding its concurrence in the election of Bishops; (Minutes of Standing Committee, May 16-17, 1980)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Utah withhold its concurrence in the election of The Rev. William Wantland, Bishop-elect of the Diocese of Eau Claire, who is on record as being unwilling to ordain any woman to the priesthood or episcopate despite the canons of the Episcopal Church in America (General Convention, 1976; telephone conversation with the Rev. Anne Thieme, July 10, 1980).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Eau Claire be informed of this action and that copies of this resolution be sent to the Presiding Bishop, the diocesan Bishops and the Standing Committees of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

I hereby certify that the above resolution was passed unanimously by the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Utah meeting in Brighton, Utah, July 11-13, 1980.

Marjorie B. Black

Secretary of the Standing Committee
Diocese of Utah

(over)

The Standing Committee of the Diocese of Utah is also withholding its concurrence in the election of the Rev. William Louis Stevenson, Bishop Co-Adjutor-elect of the Diocese of Fond Du Lac, who is on record as being unwilling to ordain any woman to the priesthood or episcopate despite the canons of the Episcopal Church in America (General Convention 1976; telephone conversation with the Rev. Anne Thieme, July 16, 1980).